

senckenberg
forschungsinstitut und naturmuseum



Sana'a University



Establishment of a Middle Eastern Biodiversity Research, Training and Conservation Network*

International Workshop

Under the Patronage of Prof. Dr. Saleh Ali Basurah
Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research

“Synoptic Biogeography of Socotra Archipelago, Yemen”

University of Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, 21-23 October 2007

PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Saturday, 20 October 2007

Arrival of Participants

* Funded by: German Academic Exchange Service / Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)

Sunday, 21 October 2007

09:00 Transfer from Arabia Felix Hotel to Sana'a University

09:30 – 10:00 Registration

10:00 – 10:50 **Opening Ceremony**

Recitation from the Holy Quran

Opening address Dr. Friedhelm Krupp, Coordinator Middle Eastern Biodiversity Network

Opening address Ms. Maxi Siegmund, DAAD Sana'a

Opening address Representative of German Embassy

Welcome address Prof. Dr. Khaled Tamim, President of Sana'a University

Opening address Ministry of Water and Environment, Republic of Yemen

Opening speech Prof. Dr. Saleh Ali Basurah, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific, Research, Republic of Yemen

10:50 – 11:10 **Coffee break**

11:10 – 12:00 Introduction to the Workshop FRIEDHELM KRUPP & ABDUL KARIM NASHER

Brainstorming: What is the Socotra Biogeography Workshop expected to achieve?

12:00 – 14:00 Lunch (in outside restaurant)

Session I: Geology, Palaeogeography and Climate

Co-chairs: Masaa Al-Jumaily and Lyndon DeVantier

14:00 – 14:20 Birth of the Socotra Archipelago: a review of geology and current tectonic and palaeogeographic models (KAY VAN DAMME)

14:20 – 14:40 Climate variability recorded in stalagmites from Socotra DOMINIK FLEITMANN, STEPHEN J. BURNS, ABDULKARIM A. AL-SUBBARY, JAN KRAMERS & ALBERT MATTER

14:40 – 15:10 Roundtable discussion: Geology, palaeogeography and climate: present state of knowledge and implications for biogeographic research

15:10 – 15:40 **Coffee break**

Session II: Terrestrial Phytogeography

Co-chairs: Abdul Karim Nasher and Michael Apel

15:40 – 16:00 Refugia on Socotra LISA BANFIELD & ANTHONY MILLER

16:00 – 16:20 Phytogeography and Vegetation Ecology of Socotra PAUL SCHOLTE

**Evening banquet on invitation by Prof. Dr. Khaled Tamim,
President of Sana'a University**

Monday, 22 October 2007

08:30 Transfer from Arabia Felix Hotel to Sana'a University

Session II: Terrestrial Phytogeography (cont'd)

09:00 – 09:20 The origin and evolution of the Socotran flora - evidence from molecular data
MIKE THIV & MATS THULIN

09:20 – 09:40 Survival of the dragonblood tree in the light of climate change NADIM TALEB

09:40 – 10:10 Roundtable discussion: Terrestrial Phytogeography

10:10 – 10:40 **Coffee break**

Session III: Terrestrial Zoogeography

Co-chairs: Abdul Karim Nasher and Uwe Zajonz

10:40 – 11:00 Biogeography of the entomofauna of Socotra – a first appraisal
WOLFGANG SCHNEIDER & ABDUL KARIM NASHER

11:00 – 11:20 The freshwater crabs of Socotra: taxonomy, phylogeny and zoogeography
MICHAEL APEL

11:20 – 11:40 Notes on faunistic biogeography of Socotra Island, with emphasis on the smaller
freshwater crustaceans and troglobionts KAY VAN DAMME

11:40 – 12:00 Biogeography of the Socotra Archipelago – the contribution of the terrestrial
malacofauna EIKE NEUBERT

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch (on campus)

13:30 – 13:50 Socotran reptiles in their broader context E. NICHOLAS ARNOLD

13:50 – 14:10 The Avifauna of Socotra and its conservation value OMAR AL-SAGHIER

14:10 – 14:30 The terrestrial mammals of the Socotra Archipelago MASAA AL-JUMAILY

14:30 – 15:00 Roundtable discussion: Terrestrial zoogeography

15:00 – 15:30 **Coffee break**

Session IV: Marine Biogeography

Co-chairs: Omar Al-Saghier and Eike Neubert

15:30 – 15:50 Pattern and processes of marine biogeography in the seas surrounding the Socotra
Archipelago FRIEDHELM KRUPP & UWE ZAJONZ

15:50 – 16:00 Biogeographic patterns inferred from marine algae (*review*)

16:00 – 16:20 Summary of biogeographical data of marine molluscs, crustaceans and other
invertebrate groups
EIKE NEUBERT, MICHAEL APEL, RONALD JANSSEN & THOMAS WEHE

Evening invitation by Profs. Masaa Al-Jumaily and Abdul Karim Nasher

Tuesday, 23 October 2007

08:30 Transfer from Arabia Felix Hotel to Sana'a University

Session IV: Marine Biogeography (cont'd)

09:00 – 09:20 Regional biogeographic patterns of reef-building corals of the Socotra Archipelago and Arabia LYNDON DEVANTIER, EMRE TURAK & MALEK ABDULAZIZ

09:20 – 09:40 Marine ichthyogeography of the Socotra Archipelago
UWE ZAJONZ, FRIEDHELM KRUPP & MAROOF KHALAF

09:40 – 10:10 Roundtable discussion: Marine Biogeography

10:10 – 10:40 **Coffee break**

Session V: Conservation Biogeography

Co-chairs: Malek Abdulaziz and Kay Van Damme

10:40 – 11:00 Biogeographic research in the Socotra Archipelago and its implications on conservation strategies (MULTI AUTHORED SUMMARY)

11:00 – 11:20 Biogeography of Socotra and the Conservation Zoning Plan
ABDUL RAQUEB SHAMSAN & PAUL SCHOLTE

11:20 – 12:00 Roundtable discussion: Conservation Biogeography

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch (on campus)

Session VI: Synoptic Biogeography

Co-chairs: Maroof Khalaf and Wolfgang Schneider

13:30 – 13:40 Socotra and the theories of biogeography, island biogeography and biodiversity:
(*review*)

13:40 – 14:00 Synthesis of the workshop conclusions and first stab at a biogeographic synopsis
(MULTI AUTHORED SUMMARY)

14:00 – 16:00 Roundtable discussion: Synoptic Biogeography of Socotra

- The catalogue of scientific questions revisited
- Approaches towards a synoptic interpretation
- Needs for future research

16:15 Closure of workshop

Informal Get Together (location to be identified)

Wednesday, 24 October 2007

The participants are cordially invited by Dr. Paul Scholte on behalf of SCDP to attend and contribute to a roundtable discussion at the University of Sana'a (details below).

The afternoon is at the disposal of the participants.

SCDP Technical Meeting, Wednesday 24 October 2007

(09:00 – 12:00, same venue as the workshop)

Bio-geographical considerations for the management and conservation of the Socotra Archipelago.

1. Introduction: Paul Scholte

- Succinct presentation of the conservation situation of Socotra
- Implications of presented biogeography studies for the management of the Socotra Archipelago

2. Road Masterplan: Nadim Taleb, Ahmed Saeed and Paul Scholte

- The planned ringroad
- Ongoing studies for the updating of the 2002 road master plan for Socotra
- Inputs of specialists for the risks of the proposed road system for the specific taxa they study

3. And what to do with other upcoming threats ?

- What did we learn from the ringroad campaign. The role of international (independent) experts, embassies, national pressure, etc.
- The need for EIAs and other formal instruments, but will they be enough ?

4. Conservation Zoning Plan: Abdul Raqueb Shamsan and Paul Scholte

- Present zoning plan, history
- Strengths and weaknesses
- Inputs of specialists for the importance of the areas for the specific taxa they study

5. Monitoring of the Ecosystem Condition of Socotra

- Birds, present thoughts, Richard Porter
- Marine environment: monitoring as of now, Malek Abdulaziz

6. Various

7. Suggestions for follow-up studies for conservation management

For more information please contact Dr. Paul Scholte at < ScholKerst@cs.com >

**Evening invitation by Abdul Rahman Al-Eryani,
Minister of Water and Environment, Republic of Yemen**

International Workshop
“Synoptic Biogeography of Socotra Archipelago, Yemen”
Sana’a, Republic of Yemen, 21-23 October 2007

Organised by
Masaa Al-Jumaily, Friedhelm Krupp, Abdul Karim Nasher, Eike Neubert,
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